JUNE 2004

SOUTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol

Major Phil Tilt

Overview

In June 2004, the Southern Command percentage of filled authorized traffic sergeant and trooper positions again decreased. One trooper retired and one resigned for better pay in the private sector. This increased the vacancy rate to 18.8% of the authorized traffic positions as compared to a 16.8% vacancy rate in May 2004. The filled percentage of authorized sergeant and trooper positions assigned to Commercial Operations is 92%. However, 6 Commercial troopers were assigned temporarily to Traffic Operations. One Commercial trooper was assigned to background investigations. Although the Highway Patrol has filled a number of vacancies for the Southern Command, attrition continues to erode the staffing levels. This means the Southern Command Traffic Operations is still severely under staffed. During the past months, we have continued to lose experienced personnel to other local agencies, and struggle with the substantial lack of personnel working the road. Dispatch vacancies are at 11 positions. The Communication Center will continue to struggle with the lack of manpower until the vacant positions are filled and the new personnel are trained.

Southern Command personnel handled 982 crashes during June 2004 as compared to 1067 crashes in June 2003. This was a decrease of 8%. Crashes involving fatalities remained the same, at seven. However, the number of persons killed increased by 22%. The largest reduction of crashes was a 17% decline in injury crashes. The Southern Command preliminary documentation shows a 13% increase in the overall number of commercial vehicle crashes. Of the 60 commercial crashes investigated this month, there were no fatalities, 22 resulted in injuries, and the remainder were property damage only. Crashes involving commercial vehicles represented 6.1% of the total crashes handled by Southern Command. The Southern Command Commercial Operations is continuing to focus on hazardous moving, and out-of-service violations, which cause or contribute to crashes.

The Southern Command had a decrease in overall enforcement in June 2004. The Southern Command also showed an increase in DUI arrests from crashes and a decrease in occupant restraint enforcement. The Commercial Operations Section showed significant increases in hazardous moving violations, overweight citations and inspections. The most notable increase was in trucks weighed. Through focusing on critical violations, the number of vehicles placed out of service increased by 108% and drivers placed out-of-service increased by 63%.

Overtime decreased 42% compared to June 2003. Some of this decrease can be attributed to the reduction in crashes and the reduction in physical arrests' made.

The 800 MHz Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) went on-line in the Southern Command on June 9^{th} . Unfortunately, over the July 4^{th} holiday weekend, troopers lost communication capabilities during a number of high risk incidents. In order to insure officer safety and protect the public at large, on July 5^{th} , we transitioned back to the 150 MHz system. This transition will be for an interim period while problems are identified and solved.

Southern Command personnel continue to perform their duties under increasing work loads in a professional manner, and I commend their hard work and dedication.

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CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	June 04	June 03	% Change	May 04	% Change
Total Crashes	982	1067	-8.0%	1082	-9.2%
Property crashes [including commercial vehicles]	681	702	-3.0%	795	-14.3%
Injury crashes [including commercial vehicles]	294	358	-17.9%	278	5.8%
Fatal crashes [including commercial vehicles]	7	7	0.0%	9	-22.2%
DUI crashes [DUI charged]	46	42	9.5%	57	-19.3%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	11	9	22.2%	10	10.0%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	0	2	-200.0%	2	-200.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	2	4	-50.0%	3	-33.3%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	3	2	50.0%	0	300.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	3	0	300.0%	1	200.0%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	3	1	200.0%	4	-25.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	60	53	13.2%	53	-13.2%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	38	43	-11.6%	38	0.0%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	22	10	120.0%	14	57.1%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	0	0	0.0%	1	-100.0%

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes	0.7%
Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes	4.7%
Percentage of persons killed without seatbelts to total persons killed	25.0%
Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes	6.1%

CRASH ANALYSIS

The Southern Command experienced a decrease in the number of total crashes during the month of June, as compared to June 2003. Property damage crashes decreased by 3% while injury crashes decreased by 17.9%. The decrease in crash severity can be attributed to increased occupant restraint awareness efforts. The number of fatal crashes remained the same at 7, compared to the same period last year; however, 11 people were killed compared to 9 people during June of 2003.

Twenty six percent of the total crashes reported in the NCATS database during June of 2004 were caused by lane violations - ("unsafe lane change" and "failure to maintain lane"). Twelve percent were caused by "following too close" and 10% were caused by "driving at a speed too fast for conditions".

Construction zones continue to be the most common location for Southern Command crashes. Over half of the crashes occurring within the Southern Command, occur in or near construction zones. The US95 corridor continues to undergo major re-engineering and construction. Additionally, the improvements to CR215 have resulted in increased usage as an alternative route to city streets.

CRASH ANALYSIS

SOUTHERN CRASH INVESTIGATION DETAIL FATAL ANALYSIS

During June 2004, 7 fatal traffic crashes occurred in the Southern Command.

Total fatal crashes during June were down slightly from May, but equal to June 2003. One way to analyze the rate of fatal crashes is to compare the change in number of crashes to the change in population or roadway miles traveled. Given the population growth and traffic increases over the same period, the constant rate of fatal crashes is a per-capita reduction from June 2003.

During June 2004, auto versus pedestrian crashes made up 42% of all fatal crashes. This is up significantly from May, when only 11% of the fatal crashes were auto-peds. In June of 2003, 1 of the 7 fatal crashes was an auto-ped, or 14%. Of the 3 fatal auto-ped crashes in June 2004, 2 of them were a result of pedestrian error on a rural highway. The third was caused by driver error, when a driver veered onto the shoulder of I 515 and struck 2 parked cars. The sharp increase in auto-ped crashes is considered an anomaly at this point, rather than a trend that can be targeted for enforcement.

COMMERCIAL CRASH ANALYSIS

Of the total crashes in the Southern Command, 6% involved commercial motor vehicles. The month of June 2004 showed a 13% increase in commercial crashes compared to the same time period in 2003. Of the commercial crashes investigated by the Southern Command in June of 2004 there was a 13% decrease when compared to May 2004. Injury crashes increased by 120% compared to June 2003 and increased 57% compared to last month. The commercial vehicle/driver was at fault in 53% of these crashes and 4 were found to have mechanical defects listed as the crash causing factor.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

CRIMINAL INTERDICTION

During the month of June the Southern Command's Criminal Interdiction Team conducted 279 traffic stops and 92 motorist assists. Of the 279 traffic stops there were 41 consent searches that resulted in 18 Felony Drug Arrests, 20 other arrests, and 71citations issued. The following is a break down of seizures that resulted during these searches:

	<u>Weight</u>	Estimated Street Value
Cocaine:	4,980 grams	\$398,400.00
Methamphetamine:	1/4 grams	\$35.00
Marijuana:	322.76 lbs.	\$129,104.00
US Currency:	\$3.913.00	

AVERAGE BAC

The average blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of drivers arrested in June 2004 was 0.13%. Drivers arrested prior to crashing had an average BAC of 0.13%, and drivers arrested post crash had an average BAC of 0.15%. Of all drivers arrested 15% tested positive for controlled substance. In addition 14% of drivers arrested had a prior conviction for DUI; this is up 9% from last month. The average age for all drivers arrested for DUI was 34 years old.

COMMERCIAL FIELD ENFORCEMENT ANALYSIS

Southern Command Commercial Operations for the month of June, showed increases in most categories. Hazardous moving violations showed a 25% increase when compared to June 2003, and a 64% increase when compared to last month. Total safety inspections showed a 58% increase over June 2003, and 2% over last month. Hazardous moving violations and safety inspections are critical to the Nevada Highway Patrol's effort to reduce traffic crashes.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

The cost of the Southern Command Flight Operations for the month of June was \$2,747.47. Flight hours totaled 17.9 hours, and the aircraft was down for 6.6 hours as a result of alternator failure and to install a new 800 MHz NHP communication radio. The Southern Command aircraft was on public display for the "Wings Across Nevada 2004" Minden Tahoe Air show. There was an estimated 3,000 participants who attended over the three day event. The aircraft was also used for transporting two prisoners and to photograph the scene of a commercial motor vehicle crash. An out-of-state extradition, reimbursed \$649.85 to the state. These transports generated \$33,475.00 to the counties.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, vers	us same perioa	in pi	evious jiscui y	eur, versus prev	w	reporting perio	ni j
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS	June 04		June 03	% Change		May 04	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes ##	46		42	9.5%		57	-19.3%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ##	120		136	-11.8%		168	-28.6%
Other arrests	604		731	-17.4%		788	-23.4%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) ##	288		315	-8.6%		381	-24.4%
Speed violations	2349		2594	-9.4%		3033	-22.6%
Hazardous moving violations	1852		1921	-3.6%		2063	-10.2%
Occupant restraint violations * ##	569		628	-9.4%		811	-29.8%
Total violations [above violations included]	7856		8692	-9.6%		9769	-19.6%
COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	64		51	25.5%		39	64.1%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	198		206	-3.9%		193	2.6%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	819		518	58.1%		817	0.2%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only	0		6	DNA		0	DNA
Total safety violations citation	365		417	-12.5%		309	18.1%
Total safety violations repair order	2535		2559	-0.9%		2358	7.5%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	231		111	108.1%		160	44.4%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	95		58	63.8%		67	41.8%
Total school buses inspected	0		172	-17200.0%		1	-100.0%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	0		36	-3600.0%		0	0.0%
Total trucks weighed	769		221	248.0%		1641	-53.1%
Total overweight citations	41		25	64.0%		47	-12.8%
Total dyed fuel inspections	819		524	56.3%		809	1.2%
Total dyed fuel citations	1		2	-50.0%		0	100.0%

*Seatbelt and Child Restraint

Commercial Operations Activity Included

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ANALYSIS

In June, the time spent training Southern Command personnel increased by 39% over the prior month. Annual leave increased by 11% over the prior month. As a result of the reduction in manpower, DUI arrests prior to crashes decreased by 28.6% as compared to May 2004. DUI arrests from crashes increased by 9.5% as compared to the same period last year. The increase in leave and training results in a decrease in on-view patrol which ultimately can be attributed to the increased number of DUI related crashes.

The Southern Command also experienced a decrease of 9.6% in total enforcement which is also attributed to the decrease in manpower due to leave and training.

STAFFING AND WORK HOURS

	Total Aut Posit		Current Positions Staffed		Vacancy Rate	
STAFFING	June 04	June 03	Administrative Assignment	Field Operations	Positions Vacant	Vacancy Rate Percentage
Traffic [Tpr. & Sgt.]	149	155	31*	90	28.0	18.8%
Commercial [Tpr. & Sgt.]	25	30	10*	13	2.0	8.0%
Commercial cvsi	4	5	2	2	0.0	0.0%
BELOW WORK	HOURS AR	E FIELD C	PERATIONS	PERSONNE	EL ONLY	
WORK HOURS LOST	June 04		June 03	% Change	May 04	% Change
Annual leave	1196.00		1505.25	-20.5%	1075.5	11.2%
Compensatory leave	457		463.25	-1.3%	507.45	-9.9%
Sick leave [personal and family]	993.75		1243.5	-20.1%	1223.8	-18.8%
Military leave	112		370	-69.7%	89	25.8%
Holiday off	0		0	0.0%	158	-15800.0%
Training	1897.83		3256.66	-41.7%	1359.75	39.6%
Administrative leave	669		41.5	1512.0%	467.5	43.1%
Leave without pay	0		0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total work hours lost	5325.58		6880.16	-22.6%	4881	9.1%
	1		1			T
OVERTIME	June 04		June 03	% Change	May 04	% Change
Paid overtime claimed	2043.67		1682.52	21.5%	2031.17	0.6%
Compensatory overtime claimed	173.33		179.66	-3.5%	183.75	-5.7%
Total overtime hours	2217		1862.24	19.1%	2214.92	0.1%
TOTAL HOURS WORKED	June 04		June 03	% Change	May 04	% Change
Number of authorized positions x 173 hours**	18165.00		18857.00	-3.7%	18338	-0.9%
Work hours lost	5325.58		6880.16	-22.6%	4881	9.1%
Overtime	2217.00		1862.24	19.1%	2214.92	0.1%
Total hours worked	15056.42		13839.08	8.8%	15671.92	-3.9%

^{*} Admin assignment includes: TDY, academy, & staff assignments

^{** 173} hours based upon 2080 work hours per year divided by 12 months

STAFFING / WORK HOURS

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

During June, one trooper resigned from the Southern Command. Currently, the Southern Command has released all troopers in the Public Safety Field Training Program. These troopers have been assigned to field operations positions within the Southern Command.

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

During the month of June 2004, the Southern Command Commercial Operations was staffed with two sergeants, one acting sergeant, eleven troopers, and four CVSI's. The acting sergeant is on administrative assignment. With one trooper medically retiring this month, the Southern Command Commercial Operations now has two trooper, and one sergeant vacancies. Six trooper positions are assigned to traffic and will be counted as administrative positions, and one Trooper is assigned to a full time back ground investigator position, also counted as an administrative position.

A new sergeant will report to Southern Command in September, assuming the sergeant duties that are currently handled by an acting sergeant.

OVERTIME

Overtime showed a 19% increase compared to June last year. Paid overtime was up 21% but compensatory overtime claimed was down 3.5%. Compared to last month the changes were less than 1%.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

EVIDENCE VAULT

The Nevada Highway Patrol retains the responsibility for administering the Department of Public Safety Evidence Vault. A review of the evidence placed into the vault during June showed that 227 cases were processed. This is a 100% increase from the number of May cases and items submitted. Due to the total number of cases handled during June, items disposed fell 98% during the month.

Of the 227 cases handled by the evidence vault the Division usage shows:

Submitting Agency	% of Case Submissions
Nevada Highway Patrol	89%
Investigation Division	7.5%
Parole and Probation	2.6%
Fire Marshall	<1%

CONTRACT SERVICES

Contract Services agreements for traffic control services had a 44% increase in June compared to May. NHP recorded a decrease of 38% in contract time this month with 362.50 hours. These contracts will reimburse the Highway Patrol \$20,491.00. The total monies collected this month was \$28,014.75. This brings the NHP total Contract Services Overtime for this calendar year to 70 contracts with 3,355.05 hours which will reimburse NHP for \$199,103.99.

CROSSROADS UPDATE

During June 2004, 630 crashes were entered into the NCATS Crossroads database. This is approximately 64% of all crashes investigated by the Southern Command. Additionally, IPAQ's are currently being delivered to the Las Vegas area which will fully deploy the electronic crash report to field personnel.

RATIOS – CRASHES AND ENFORCEMENT

ACCIDENT RATIOS

June 04

Region wide crash ratios per Traffic position	
Total	10.9
Property	7.6
Injury	3.3
Fatal	0.1
DUI	0.5
Commercial vehicle	0.5
Ratio of deaths per fatal crash *	1.6
without seatbelts	0.3
with seatbelts	0.9

st Including non-motorist fatalities

FIELD ENFORCEMENT

Region wide enforcement ratios per Traffic position	
DUI arrests from crashes	0.5
DUI arrests prior to crashes	1.3
Other arrests	6.7
Total persons arrested (DUI included)	3.2
Speed violations	26.1
Hazardous moving violations	20.6
Occupant restraint violations	6.3
Total violations	87.3

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT RATIOS

Troopers logged 20,180 contacts with the public. In addition to field enforcement and response to traffic crashes, these incidents included: motorist assists, debris removal, medical assists, allied agency assistance, and traffic hazard mitigation.

The traffic enforcement ratios have been broken down further, to give a more accurate picture of the distribution of workload in the Southern Command between Urban and Rural Operations:

- ➤ In the Rural areas of the Southern Command traffic troopers assigned had a crash ratio of approximately 3 crashes per staffed field operations position. Approximately 88 citations were issued per staffed position and approximately 1 DUI arrest was made per position.
- In the Urban areas of the Southern Command, the crash ratio was approximately 13 crashes per staffed traffic position. Approximately 82 citations were issued per staffed field position and approximately 2 DUI arrests were made per position.

RATIOS - CRASHES AND ENFORCEMENT Cont'd

INSPECTION / ENFORCEMENT RATIOS

June 04

Julie 04
4.9
15.2
54.6
0.0
28.1
0.4
169.0
3.1
15.4
0.3
6.3
0.1
0.0
0.0
59.2
3.2
63.0
0.1

^{*} Commercial sworn only

The Southern Command Commercial Operations troopers have shown an increase in commercial activity when compared to the same time periods in 2003, and May 2004. Hazardous moving citations are up showing 4.9 per Trooper position, with other traffic violations resulting in citations showing 15.2. Total inspections are at 54.6, showing an increase over June 2003. Safety violations that resulted in citations are showing an increase at 28.1. The increases the Southern Command Commercial Operations are showing the combined effort to decrease traffic crashes and their severity.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS Cont'd

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH CENTER

The vacancies in the Communications Center decreased to 11 with the hiring of four PSD I's. One trainee completed the final phase and is currently working dayshift.

The following is a summary of call types received in the Southern Command's Public Safety Dispatch Center:

- > 738 media calls (an increase of 11% from May 2004 and an increase of 35% from June 2003)
- ➤ 155,360 radio transmissions (an increase of 17% from June 2003 and a 7% decrease from May 2004)
 - o Average daily radio transmissions per shift
 - Grave yard 991
 - Day Shift 2,046
 - Swing Shift 2,142
- ➤ 35,880 telephone calls (a 1% decrease from May 2004 and an increase of 4% from June 2003)
 - o Average daily phone calls per shift
 - Grave yard 196
 - Day Shift 494
 - Swing Shift 505
- ➤ 194 Call Box incidents

RECORDS SECTION

During June 2004, the Records Section assisted 862 visitors. This is a 15% increase over the same period in 2003 where 732 visitors were assisted.

This section processed 1,048 crash reports This section completed 63 office reports compared to 43 in 2003, a 31% increase. Twenty two incident reports were processed this month compared to 55 in 2003, a 60% decrease.

The number of towed vehicles released was down 48% this month, compared to last year. Six thousand two hundred and forty nine photocopies of crash reports were mailed this month compared to 4,605 the same month in 2003. This represents an increase of approximately 26%.

OFFICE HIT AND RUN REPORTS

There were 12 office hit and run reports generated during June 2004. One April report, 4 May reports, and 2 June reports were cleared this month. Fourteen outstanding reports remain as of July 1, 2004.

COURT SERVICES SECTION

The Court Services Section received 219 bench warrants from area courts during June 2004. Eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-six warrants were cleared from the Criminal Justice Information System, 8,375 of these occurred due to the Clark County Justice Court removing all traffic warrants issued prior to March 1, 1999. This section also validated 3701 active warrants, checking for accuracy and completeness. Court Services accomplished the above work load with two employees absent for most of the month of June 2004 and one vacant position.

This section arranged 5 in state transports and 1 extradition on wanted subjects, which is a decrease from last month.

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS Cont'd

DATA ENTRY

Citation entry was at 17% for June 2004. The section is 3 1/2 months behind in citation entry due to the transition to the Crossroads system and changes to the entry process. The accident report backlog continues to decrease as sworn personnel input 64% of all crash reports. The section has filled one vacant position and transferred personnel during this period.

PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES

Crystal Mudge
Melissa McCoy
Sy Breitenbach
Kimberly Woolsey
Rochelle Altares-McKenna

PROMOTIONS

Dave Dudley Jeff Bowers Scott Farmer

RESIGNATIONS

Timothy Case Helen Ramsey Joseph Brayboy Nadine Stephens

RETIREMENTS

Barbara Daly Timothy Hall James Mercer

COMMENDATIONS

- ➤ Bobby Kintzel received a commendation letter from Dell H. Robinson Middle School for sharing his "Miraculous" story with students.
- ➤ The Latin Chamber of Commerce wrote to thank Bobby Kintzel for encouraging and motivating the Hispanic youth of Las Vegas.
- A citizen wrote to thank Sergeant Mack for changing a flat tire on the highway.
- Sergeant Mack was the recipient of the Laughlin Community Achievement Award for Emergency Services Worker of the Year.
- A citizen wrote to thank Trooper Wolff for her outstanding job with the Drivers Edge Program.
- A citizen wrote to thank Trooper Davidson and Trooper Wolff for their assistance with an accident report.
- Trooper Snow received a commendation letter for his professionalism during the International Trucking Show.
- Trooper Bell received a commendation letter for maintaining a calm and professional demeanor at the scene of an accident, involving hazardous materials.
- ➤ Off-duty Troopers Prosser, Cooke, and Moses received commendation letters for their willingness to help a fellow Trooper.
- ➤ Captain Perry wrote commendation letters to all dispatchers for the professional manner in which they have undertaken their job assignments during the 800 MHz radio transition.
- Lieutenant Harney wrote commendation letters to graveyard troopers for displaying an unwavering commitment to teamwork.
- Sergeant Rikalo received a commendation letter for setting a good example as a grave shift supervisor.
- ➤ Civilian and sworn personnel received commendation letters for their involvement in the Vice Presidential Motorcade on June 21, 2004.
- Sergeant Wick received a commendation letter for organizing, motivating, and leading the involved personnel on a 72 hour road block in Elko.
- Sworn and non-sworn personnel received commendation letters for assisting with the power outage and generator failure on June 2, 2004.

COMMENDATIONS Cont'd

- A certificate of appreciation was given to Helen Ramsey for her hard work and dedication.
- Troopers Haycox, Stuehling, and Pruitt received commendation letters for their outstanding job at a traffic stop which could have lead to an officer involved shooting.
- ➤ Public Safety Dispatcher Allison Poirier received a commendation letter for handling the radio in a calm and professional manner during a foot pursuit.
- A citizen wrote to thank Trooper Thurston for assisting her while stranded on the highway.
- A citizen wrote to thank Trooper Conlin, Sgt. Dudley and Captain Ellison for their assistance while she was broken down on US95 at Lake Mead.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Drivers Edge

Class 9 and 10 continued education and demonstrations relating to the dangers of teen DUI'S, drag racing, and the importance of seatbelt safety. Approximately 400 teens and parents educated. June 12th and 13th, 2004.

Nellis Air Force Base Incoming Airman's Briefing

Personnel reporting to Nellis Air Force Base were presented a class on Nevada traffic laws with special emphasis on seatbelt safety and the dangers of driving while intoxicated. June 8^{th} and 22^{nd} , 2004

N.C.E.P. (Nevada Community Enrichment Program)

Trooper Bobby Kintzel returned to N.C.E.P. and gave a three hour lecture: "Survival after a Brain Injury". Patients, therapist, and employees who helped Bobby with his rehab participated. June 11th, 2004

Digital rendition of new "No Zone" markings on MCC promoting CVSP and FHWA safety initiatives.



Nevada Highway Patrol

Southern Command

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Dave Dudley was promoted to Sergeant on June 16th, 2004.

We cannot do everything at once, but we can do something at once.

Calvin Coolidge